



Minute board meeting 10:33 am – 12: 10 p.m. 5 July 2011, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

PRESENT: Niel Black, Tony O'Shea (Chairman), Diane Batterham, Rowan Dowland, Shirley Farm and David Griffiths (Secretary)

APOLOGIES: David Dinning

## **1. Minute**

That the minute of the board meeting of 3 May 2011 be accepted as a true and accurate record.  
CARRIED

## **3. Business arising from meeting of 3 May 2011:**

### **3.1 CFNSW**

Chairman reported that he had recently spoken with the Chairman of CFNSW, Tony Rogic, and that their Executive Officer had resigned and that the two Federations were still moving towards a co-operative working relationship.

**ACTION:** Chairman

### **2.2 Co-operative Education**

It was noted the Co-operative College brochure for 2011 had been circulated to all directors and that two possibilities for workshops were (a) the Tasmanian co-operatives and (b) the co-operative housing societies..

Rowan reported that representatives from MECU would be in the UK in July for various purposes including a meeting with Chris Cooper to assess the potential role of the Co-operative College in Australia. It was agreed that it was important for the MECU representatives to meet with Mervyn Wilson.

**ACTION:** Secretary

Rowan reported that the advance of co-operative education for credit unions would be through Abacus Australian Mutuals if taken up rather than through CUFA.

Tony O'Shea reported that he would shortly commence a visiting program to co-operatives concerning, inter alia, (a) CV membership (b) the co-operative education program and (c) IYC 2012.

**ACTION:** Chairman

## **2.3 CAV**

The Chairman reported that he had not made contact with CAV since the last meeting.

**ACTION:** Chairman

## **2.4 Co-operatives Australia**

It was noted that Co-operatives Australia had not met since the last meeting.

The Chairman reported that Co-operatives Australia had agreed to endorse a NZCA research conference in 2012. He reported that CFQ had supported the endorsement, Co-operatives WA had reservations and the other states had not responded.

**ACTION:** Chairman

## **2.5 Co-operatives National Law**

The Secretary reported that there was no news and the possibility reported at the last meeting that a draft bill might be released in May 2011, based on information provided by NSW Fair Trading, did not eventuate..

**ACTION:** Secretary

The Chairman reported that the CFNSW Chairman was hoping to speak with the Minister in NSW on the CNL.

**ACTION:** Chairman

## **2.6 International Year of Co-operatives**

It was noted that Tony O'Shea had attended a meeting with Tasmanian co-operatives on the 9 May 2011.

He reported that the IYC 2012 Steering Committee supported a national conference at Port Macquarie in the absence of any other proposal and that he was hopeful that CFNSW would support this.

It was noted that there will be an IYC Commemorative Coin and prepaid envelope and a mention in the Commonwealth Year Book.

**ACTION:** Chairman

## **3. Financial Statements**

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chairman circulated a list of withdrawals and deposits between 7 December 2010 and 1 July 2011.

## **4. Other Matters**

### **4.1 Annual Subscriptions**

It was noted that a further invoice had been forwarded today to Co-operative Development Services together with signed copies of the financial statements.

### **4.3 Letter to Trent Bartlett**

The Chairman read the proposed letter to Trent Bartlett and this was approved without objection.

**ACTION:** Chairman and Secretary

### **4.4 MG**

Niel Black reported that the MG had appointed the SunRice CEO Gary Helou as its new Managing Director.

### **4.5 Bega**

Niel reported that Bega (NSW) was demutualising.

### **4.6 NRMA**

Niel noted that there were recent reports on the consequences for NRMA when it demutualised its insurance business.

## **5. Future Meetings**

6 September 2011  
15 November 2011 (also AGM date)

Prepared by David Griffiths: 7 July 2011  
Approved by Chairman: 7 July 2011  
Emailed to directors: 7 July 2011  
Snail mailed to directors: 8 July 2011

## **From The Australian:**

- *AAP*
- June 15, 2011 12:29PM

### **SunRice CEO Gary Helou to lead Murray Goulburn**

**RICE Growers, which trades as SunRice, is losing its managing director to Murray Goulburn Co-operative.**

The departure of Gary Helou to run Murray Goulburn from September follows Rice Growers shareholders' rejection of a takeover bid from Spanish group Ebro Foods.

There is no indication the two events are linked.

SunRice chairman, Gerry Lawson, said the company would begin a search for a new chief executive officer.

Mr Lawson said Mr Helou had provided "outstanding leadership and vision through very difficult and challenging times, including a drought which saw local rice production almost cease".

"Gary's determination and focus on diversification of supply sources, brands, innovation and growing the business were exemplary and we sincerely wish him the very best for the future," he said.